

CMPT 376W Guest Speaker 1

By: Michael Chang

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Prepare for the Talk

The presenter is a fourth-year student at SFU called Christien John, who is a Software Engineer Co-op at OSI Maritime Systems in Fall 2020. He is going to share his experience from working at OSI Maritime System.

Talk Notes

1. Workplace Environment

a. About OSI

- i. Integrated navigation and tactical solutions for naval & maritime security
 - 1) Software that will be used primarily in both battleships and submarines
 - a) Radar, threat detection
- ii. Produces both hardware and software of bridge systems for military security
- iii. Serves 23 navies totaling more than 600 warships and submarines
- iv. John's thoughts:
 - 1) He like this co-op because of the potential software that he will be working on in OSI
 - 2) Experience what its like to get requirements from customer's need

b. Team/Environment

- i. Belong to software Testing team
 - 1) Responsible for testing software bugs and fixes
 - 2) Close communication with every other branch of the company
 - 3) Multiple helpful members of the team
- ii. Mostly virtual
 - 1) Some use of company tools in office
 - a) Simulation of the bridge system, (tools used in battleship)
 - 2) Daily stand-up meeting
 - a) Present their own progress
 - b) Ask for help
 - 3) Zoom and Outlook

2. Technical Problems

- a. Verifying & reporting SCRs (Software Change Requests):
 - i. Discover a bug in the software
 - ii. Use Jira to report the bug and describe Bug, Build, Environment, Impact, and How to reproduce
 - iii. Once fixed, must verify in a timely manner
- b. Create Jira Gadgets using JavaScript:
 - i. Use JavaScript to create and edit company Jira gadgets
 - ii. All assigned tasks were monitored by Jira, was budgeted 2 weeks for this task (flexible)
 - iii. Created gadgets and presented to manager
- c. Create several automated Python scripts:

- i. Many tasks that could be automated, tasked to create python scripts to automate them
- ii. Budgeted 3 weeks
- iii. Created multiple working scripts to do various company tasks

3. Co-op Experience

- a. Clear & concise communication
 - i. Important in SCR
 - 1) Amount of work you put into
- b. Self-learning
 - i. Learn to code in JavaScript
 - ii. Learn Jira
- c. Finding your own work
 - i. Find out in some down time
 - ii. Learn how to find your own work
 - iii. Play around with company's software
- d. Creative work arounds
 - i. Take a step back
 - ii. look at the problem in a different perspective
- e. Working as a team
 - i. His first co-op
 - ii. Enriching for him to communicate with team over 20 plus people

4. Summary

- a. Being interested in a company results in better work
 - i. He's interested in what OSI is doing
 - ii. Turn passion into the success of the company
- b. Friendly & reliable team members | Virtual work hardships
 - i. Everyone is really nice and super helpful
- c. Examples of type of work at OSI
- d. Valuable real-life experience and skills

Summarize

Christien discuss a lot of similar experience that I went through during my co-op term as well (I started my second co-op at Fall 2020 as well). I was able to relate with him with a lot of points that he mentioned, include his struggles with remote work and learning new technologies.